

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1-12 (canceled).

2 <sup>sub</sup> 13. (currently amended) An implantable hearing device  
3 comprising:  
4 at least one permanent magnet adapted for being solidly  
5 attached positioned on a promontory in the area of  
6 the middle ear; and  
7 at least one coil adapted for placing in the area of the  
8 middle ear.

1 14. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim  
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for placing in an area of an  
3 ossicle chain.

1 15. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim  
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for placing at a tympanic  
3 membrane.

1 16. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim  
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for positioning behind a  
3 tympanic membrane.

1 17. (currently amended) The hearing device of ~~one of~~  
2 claim 13, wherein said permanent magnet is radially polarized.

1 18. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim  
2 17, wherein said permanent magnet is adapted to be removeably  
3 attached to the promontory.

1 19. (previously presented) The hearing device of one

2 of claims 13, wherein said permanent magnet is one of a  
3 circular, oval, square, or rectangular design.

1 20. (canceled).

1 21. (previously presented) The hearing device of one  
2 of claims 13-16, wherein said permanent magnet is further  
3 adapted to be removeably attached to the promontory.

1 22. (currently amended) The hearing device of ~~one of~~  
2 claims 13, wherein said coil is further adapted for placing in  
3 the middle ear ~~one of a circular or an oval design.~~

1 23. (previously presented) The hearing device of one  
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain parallel  
3 to the permanent magnet.

1 24. (previously presented) The hearing device of one  
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain  
3 perpendicular to the permanent magnet.

1 25. (previously presented) The hearing device of one  
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain that is  
3 between 0° and 180° relative to the magnet.

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1 26. (currently amended) The hearing device of one of  
2 claims 13-16, wherein said permanent magnet is further adapted  
3 to be positioned on the promontory in an adjustable fashion.

1 27. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim  
2 26, wherein an air-gap between said permanent magnet and said  
3 coil can be adjusted by post-implantation adjustment of said  
4 magnet.

1 28. (currently amended) A method for enhancing auditory

2 capacity by amplifying a natural movement of a vibrating  
3 ossicle tract, said method comprising the steps of:  
4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear, wherein said converting said electrical  
9 signal into said mechanical oscillation of said coil  
10 utilizes a permanent magnet adapted for being  
11 positioned solidly attached on a promontory.

1 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28,  
2 wherein said coil is adapted for placing in an area of an  
3 ossicle chain.

1 30. (previously presented) The hearing device of one of  
2 claims 13-16 for implementing the a method of claim 29  
3 comprising the steps of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear.

1 31. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 26  
2 for implementing the a method of claim 29 comprising the steps  
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear.

1 32. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 27

2 for implementing the a method of claim 29 comprising the steps  
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear.

1 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 28,  
2 wherein said coil is adapted for placing at the tympanic  
3 membrane.

1 34. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 16  
2 ~~13~~ for implementing the a method of claim 33 comprising the  
3 steps of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear.

1 35. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 13  
2 for implementing the a method of claim 29 comprising the steps  
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;  
5 and  
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical  
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a  
8 middle ear.

1 36 (new) An implantable hearing device comprising:  
2 at least one permanent magnet adapted for being removably  
3 attached to a promontory in the area of the middle  
4 ear; and

5 at least one coil adapted for placing in the area of the  
6 middle ear for directly transferring sound  
7 vibrations to a component of the middle ear.

8 37 (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein said  
9 coil is adapted for placing in an area of an ossicle chain.

1 38. (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein said  
2 coil is adapted for placing at or behind a tympanic membrane.

1 39. (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein an air-  
2 gap between said permanent magnet and said coil can be  
3 adjusted.

1 40 (new) An implantable hearing aid comprising:  
2 a permanent magnet adapted for being mounted on a  
3 promontory in the area of the middle ear; and  
4 a coil adapted for placing in the middle ear.

1 41 (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said  
2 coil is adapted for placing in an area of an ossicle chain.

1 42. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said  
2 coil is adapted for placing at or behind a tympanic membrane.

1 43. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein an air-  
2 gap between said permanent magnet and said coil can be  
3 adjusted.

1 44. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said  
2 permanent magnet is mounted in an adjustable fashion.